CLAIMS

1. A policy repository, comprising:

a database;

policy stored in said database, said policy providing generic conditions of evaluation, thresholds and actions, said policy being generally easy to modify for specific application of enterprise devices;

a retrieval facility for retrieving policy from said database;

and optionally an authentication facility whereby access through said retrieval facility may be restricted.

2. A policy repository system, comprising:

a database designed to contain generic policy;

a retreival facility whereby the generic policy may be retrieved from said database;

optionally an authentication facility whereby access through said retrieval facility may be restricted;

one or more transferential systems operating to receive policy from said database, said transferential systems being connected to an enterprise;

and a central information system in electronic communication with said transferential systems, said central information system enabled to provide enterprise device status to administrators.

3. A policy repository system, comprising:

a database designed to contain indexed generic policy;

a retrieval facility in communication with said database, said retrieval facility operating to retrieve generic policy contained in said database;

a search facility in communication with said database, said serach facility accepting search parameters, said search facility operating to locate policy of said database in conformance with the search parameters;

an entry facility in communication with said database, said entry facility accepting generic policy with index information, said entry facility also delivering the generic policy and the index information to said

18

database;

an interface whereby an adminster may operate the retrieval, search, and entry facilities;

optionally an authentication facility whereby access through said retrieval, search, and entry facilities may be restricted;

and one or more enterprise management systems operating to receive policy from said database, said enterprise management systems being connected to an enterprise.

4. A method of producing generic policy for application to enterprises, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a policy database designed to contain generic policy;

accepting new generic policy, optionally through authentication;

optionally revising the new generic policy;

qualifying the new generic policy to produce accepted generic policy;

placing the accepted policy to the policy database;

and providing a retrieval facility whereby accepted generic policy may be retrieved from the database, optionally through authentication, the retrieved policy being easily modifyable and installable to an enterprise management system.

5. A method of providing generic policy for application to enterprses, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a policy database whereby generic policy has been entered, said database providing an index for said policy;

searching the policy database using a search criteria, said searching indicating corresponding policy of the database;

retrieving from the policy database at least a portion of the corresponding policy;

modifying the corresponding policy for a specific application of an enterprise device producing modified policy;

and installing the modified policy to an enterprise management system in communication with the enterprise device, such that the modified policy is utilized for the enterprise device.

6. A system for retrieving generic policy for enterprise management systems, comprising:

a database adapted to contain generic policy;

a retrieval facility in communication with said database, said retrieval facility operating to retrieve generic policy contained in said database.

7. The system of claim 6, further comprising:

a search facility in communication with said database, said search facility accepting search parameters, said search facility operating to locate policy of said database in conformance with the search parameters.

8. The system of claim 6, further comprising:

an entry facility in communication with said database, said entry facility accepting generic policy with index information, said entry facility also delivering the generic policy and the index information to said database.

9. A method of providing generic policy to administrators of enterprise management systems, comprising the steps of:

providing a policy database designed to contain generic policy;

providing means of retrieving policy from the database;

receiving at least one policy identifier;

and delivering policy contained in said database referenced with the policy identifier.

10. The method of claim 9, further comprising the steps of:

providing means of searching for policy in the database;

receiving policy search criteria;

searching the database using the search criteria;

identifying policy conforming to the search criteria.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein the search criteria includes a device type.

12. The method of claim 10 wherein the search criteria includes a usage type.

13. The method of claim 10 wherein the search criteria includes a use case.

14. The method of claim 9, further comprising the steps of:

　　providing an entry facility whereby generic policy may be added to the database;

　　receiving generic policy with index information;

　　storing the generic policy to the database with the index information.

15. A method of development and distribution of generic enterprise policy, comprising the steps of:

　　accepting submission of first policy;

　　development of first policy to produce second policy, said development including testing or modification of said first policy;

　　entering said second policy to a policy database;

　　providing access to the policy database whereby the second policy may be retrieved.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein the access to the policy database is restricted by authentication.

17. The method of claim 15 wherein said accepting submission of first policy is restricted by authentication.